You have two options.

1. Shiner organizes his chapters around the concepts of art, artist/artisan, and aesthetic experience. Briefly review what he means by each of these and give some examples. Then give your understanding, at the beginning of the course, of our contemporary view of art, artists, and aesthetic experience. (I am asking for your understanding of the contemporary situation, not your personal opinion on what art, artists, and aesthetic experience ought to be.)

2. What are some objections which might be raised against the mimetic theory of art? In addressing this question, you might ask some of the following questions. Is strict mimeticism possible? What is the point of imitating nature? Can mimetic art provoke and challenge? Can it transform perceptions? Treat this paper as your preliminary exploration of mimeticism. We shall read later about various challenges to the theory.

Due date: Friday, January 26

Two to three pages; 1 inch margins; normal font (12 pt.); double space; no cover page; place your name, the date, and the name of the course in the upper left or right corner of the first page; place a header on pages other than the first page with your name and the page number; use the MLA parenthetical style for references

References to paintings and sculpture should be in italics or underlined.